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National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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June Crop Acreages

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All wheat seeded acreage in Montana is estimated to be 5.71 million acres, up 540,000 acres from last year, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. **Spring wheat** producers seeded an estimated 2.50 million acres, up 2 percent from last year and up 50,000 acres from March intentions. Acres intended for harvest, at 2.45 million, are up 2 percent from the previous year. The condition of spring wheat crop for the week ending June 22 was rated 10 percent excellent, 52 percent good, 31 percent fair, 5 percent poor, and 2 percent very poor. Spring wheat crop progress is behind last year, but on pace with the 5-year average. Thirty-eight percent of the spring wheat crop has reached the boot stage and 12 percent of the crop is headed. **Winter wheat** acreage seeded dropped 100,000 acres from the March 1 estimate at 2.6 million acres, but is up 16 percent from last year. Producers are expecting to harvest 2.45 million acres, down 150,000 acres from the previous forecast, but up 260,000 acres from last year. The condition of the winter wheat crop is rated 16 percent excellent, 35 percent good, 37 percent fair, 11 percent poor and 1 percent very poor for the week ending June 22. The winter wheat crop development is behind last year and the 5-year average with 78 percent in the boot stage and 46 percent headed. **Durum wheat** seeded acreage, at 610,000, is up 130,000 acres from a year ago, but down 20,000 acres from the March intended plantings. Acreage of durum wheat intended for harvest is estimated at 605,000 acres, up 27 percent from last year.

Montana **barley** growers seeded an estimated 910,000 acres, which is up 1 percent from last year and 50,000 acres above March intentions. Barley growers intend to harvest 780,000 acres for grain this year, which is 8 percent above the previous year. Planted acreage for **oats**, at 65,000 acres, is down 10,000 acres from the previous year, but up 10,000 acres from the March intentions. Growers intend to harvest 35,000 acres for grain, unchanged from a year ago.

Montana **hay** producers expect to harvest an estimated 2.65 million acres of all hay, 100,000 acres above last year. Of the total hay expected for harvest, 1.65 million acres are expected to be **alfalfa** hay, which is unchanged from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.0 million acres of **other** hay, which is up 100,000 acres from a year ago.

Montana **corn** growers planted an estimated 65,000 acres, down 19,000 acres from a year ago, and down 13,000 acres from the March 1 intentions. Acreage intended for harvest as grain, at 22,000 acres, is down 16,000 acres from a year ago. **Sugar beet** producers planted an estimated 31,600 acres, down 15,900 acres from 2007 and down 4,200 acres from March intentions. Producers intend to harvest 31,200 acres, down 34 percent from 2007.

Farmers in Montana planted an estimated 16,000 acres of **dry beans** in 2008, down 13 percent from last year and down 13,000 acres from March intentions. Producers are expecting to harvest 14,500 acres of dry beans this year, 13 percent below a year ago.

Flaxseed growers in Montana planted an estimated 10,000 acres this year, down 11,000 from last year's acreage, and down 4,000 acres from March 1 intentions. Producers intend to harvest 9,000 acres of flaxseed this year, down from 20,000 acres last year.

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Canola producers planted an estimated 10,000 acres for 2008, up 2,000 acres from last year and up 6,000 acres from March intentions. They expect to harvest 9,500 acres, up 1,800 acres from 2007. **Safflower** producers planted an estimated 32,000 acres, down 6,000 acres from 2007 and expect to harvest 30,500 acres, down 6,000 acres from last year.

For the U.S., **all wheat** planted area is estimated at 63.5 million acres, up 5 percent from 2007. The 2008 **winter wheat** planted area, at 46.6 million acres, is 4 percent above last year but down slightly from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 31.9 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 11.0 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.7 million acres are White Winter. Area harvested for grain is forecasted at 40.3 million acres, up slightly from the June forecast and up 12 percent from last year. Area planted to other **spring wheat** for 2008 is estimated at 14.2 million acres, up 7 percent from 2007. Of this total, about 13.4 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Grain area is expected to total 13.8 million acres, up 6 percent from 2007. **Durum wheat** planted area for 2008 is estimated at 2.66 million acres, up 24 percent from last year's level. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 2.58 million acres, 22 percent above 2007.

Barley growers seeded 4.13 million acres for 2008, up 3 percent from the 4.02 million acres seeded last year. Acres for harvest, at 3.64 million, are up 4 percent from 2007. Planted acres increased from the previous year in the top two producing States

Oats area planted is estimated at 3.47 million acres, showing a continued decline from the 3.76 million acres planted in 2007. This 8 percent decrease from the previous year will bring the oat crop to another record low level. Oat acres planted declined or remained unchanged in 23 States and increased in 7 States

Producers expect to harvest 60.4 million acres of **all hay** in 2008, down 2 percent from 2007. Harvested area is expected to decrease from last year throughout the Great Plains and the West. Increased acres are expected to be harvested along the East Coast. Expected harvested area of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures**, at 20.8 million acres, is down 4 percent from 2007. All **other** types of hay totals 39.7 million acres, down 1 percent from the 40.0 million acres harvested in 2007.

The 2008 **corn** planted area for all purposes is estimated at 87.3 million acres, down 7 percent from last year when corn planted area was the highest since 1944. Despite the decrease, planted acreage is the second highest since 1946, behind last year, as high prices continue to provide incentive to plant corn. Growers expect to harvest 78.9 million acres for grain, down 9 percent from last year when harvested area was the highest since 1933. If realized, this would be the second highest since 1944, behind last year. Farmers responding to the survey indicated that 97 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted at the time of the interview compared with the 10-year average of 98 percent. Planted acreage decreased from last year in most States as favorable prices for other crops, high fertilizer prices, and a return to normal crop rotation patterns influenced some farmers to plant fewer acres to corn.

Sugar beets area planted totals 1.08 million acres, down 15 percent from 2007. The area for harvest is forecast at 1.03 million acres, down 18 percent from 2007. Planted acres decreased from 2007 in all States except Colorado.

U.S. **dry bean** growers intend to plant 1.40 million acres in 2008, down slightly from the March 1 forecast and down 8 percent from 2007. Acres to be harvested in 2008 are estimated at 1.34 million acres, down 9 percent from last year. The decrease in planted acres can be attributed in part to strong prices for competing crops. Twelve of the 18 dry bean States decreased planted acreage from last year, two are unchanged, and four increased acres from 2007.

Area planted to **flaxseed** in 2008 totaled 340,000 acres, down 4 percent from last year's total of 354,000 acres. Area for harvest is forecast at 333,000 acres, down 5 percent from 2007. **Canola** producers planted 1.01 million acres in 2008, down 15 percent from 2007. Planted area decreased from last year in Minnesota and North Dakota. Planted area of **safflower** increased 6 percent from 2007, to 191,000 acres in 2008. Area for harvest is forecast at 183,000 acres, up 6 percent from last year.

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June 1, 2008 Crop Production Forecast, Montana and U.S.

Crop	Unit	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested	
		2007	2008 1/	2007	2008 1/
		(000) Acres		(000) Acres	
Winter Wheat	Bu	2,240.0	2,600.0	2,190.0	2,450.0
Durum Wheat	Bu	480.0	610.0	475.0	605.0
Spring Wheat	Bu	2,450.0	2,500.0	2,400.0	2,450.0
All Wheat	Bu	5,170.0	5,710.0	5,065.0	5,505.0
Barley	Bu	900.0	910.0	720.0	780.0
Oats	Bu	75.0	65.0	35.0	35.0
Corn for Grain 2/	Bu	84.0	65.0	38.0	22.0
Sugar Beets	Tons	47.5	31.6	47.0	31.2
Dry Beans	Cwt	18.3	16.0	16.6	14.5
Canola	Lbs	8.0	10.0	7.7	9.5
Flaxseed	Bu	21.0	10.0	20.0	9.0
Safflower	Lbs	38.0	32.0	36.5	30.5
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	--	--	1,650.0	1,650.0
All Other Hay	Ton	--	--	900.0	1,000.0
All Hay	Ton	--	--	2,550.0	2,650.0
UNITED STATES		(000) Acres		(000) Acres	
Winter Wheat	Bu	44,987.0	46,605.0	35,952.0	40,252.0
Durum Wheat	Bu	2,149.0	2,655.0	2,112.0	2,583.0
Spring Wheat	Bu	13,297.0	14,197.0	12,947.0	13,751.0
All Wheat	Bu	60,433.0	63,457.0	51,011.0	56,586.0
Barley	Bu	4,020.0	4,130.0	3,508.0	2,640.0
Oats	Bu	3,760.0	3,467.0	1,505.0	1,443.0
Corn for Grain 2/	Bu	93,600.0	87,327.0	86,542.0	78,940.0
Sugar Beets	Ton	1,268.8	1,080.1	1,246.8	1,027.3
Dry Beans	Cwt	1,526.9	1,398.0	1,478.7	1,339.2
Canola	Lbs	1,183.0	1008.0	1,163.0	979.0
Flaxseed	Bu	354.0	340.0	349.0	333.0
Safflower	Lbs	180.0	191.0	172.0	183.0
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	--	--	21,670.0	20,778.0
All Other Hay	Ton	--	--	39,955.0	39,661.0
All Hay	Ton	--	--	61,625.0	60,439.0
1/ Preliminary. 2/ Planted for all purposes. Not published.					